

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to nucleic acid molecules encoding cell surface receptors on immune cells and the characteristic peptides that comprise these receptors. More specifically, the present invention concerns the use of synthetic and recombinant peptides comprising natural killer ("NK") cell surface receptors. The synthetic and recombinant peptides are used to generate monoclonal antibodies that bind a specific NK cell surface receptor called CS1. The binding of the monoclonal antibody to the NK cell surface receptor leads to NK cell activation. In a particular embodiment of the present invention, the monoclonal antibodies are utilized in a method that inhibits the growth of tumor cells.

The following documents and publications are incorporated by reference herein.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

U.S. Patent No. 5,929,237 issued on July 27, 1999 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,859,184 issued on January 12, 1999 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,840,833 issued on November 24, 1998 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,710,245 issued on January 20, 1998 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,674,976 issued on October 7, 1997 with Kahn as inventor.
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U.S. Patent No. 5,670,155 issued on September 23, 1997 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,618,914 issued on April 8, 1997 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,475,085 issued on December 12, 1995 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,446,128 issued on August 29, 1995 with Kahn as inventor.
U.S. Patent No. 5,440,013 issued on August 8, 1995 with Kahn as inventor.
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